



**TENNESSEE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
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# NEWS RELEASE

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## ***THE TENNESSEE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION HONORS FRANCIS S. GUESS FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE***

NASHVILLE -- The Tennessee Human Rights Commission's Board of Commissioners, staff and invited guest will honor Francis S. Guess at a reception marking his 30 years of dedicated service to the commission.

Guess, an activist, entrepreneur, international traveler and philanthropist, has served on numerous boards and commissions, and through his advocacy role has effectuated positive change for, not only the citizens of Tennessee, but people around the world as well. He has contributed a significant portion of his time and talent to community activities.

Currently, he serves on the Board of Trustees, American Institute for Managing Diversity (Atlanta); Board of Directors, Nashville Convention and Visitors Bureau; Board of Trustees, United Way of Metropolitan Nashville; Board of Directors, Nashville City Club (Immediate past President); Operating Board, Tennessee Repertory Theatre; and the Board of Directors, Nashville Minority Business Development Loan Fund (Chair). Nationally, Guess served for six years as a member of the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights. He is a life member of the NAACP.

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Guess, who has been the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions for his public and civic service, is listed in various national and international “who’s who” publications, and is a frequent speaker on issues pertaining to public policy, economic development, and civil rights.

Guess serves as executive vice president of The Danner Company, a Nashville, Tennessee based investment and management firm with interests world-wide in a variety of business ventures. Among his various roles at the Danner Company, he is the firm’s principal officer in charge of external affairs. In this capacity, he provides management and marketing advice, as well as serving as the company’s chief spokesperson.

“I'm pleased to have served on the Tennessee Human Rights Commission with Mr. Guess and I am honored to be a part of this celebration. Francis has served on the commission for 30 of the 37 years it has been in existence. He has accomplished a great deal in the area of advancing civil rights for citizens of the great state of Tennessee. He has and will continue to further civil rights regardless of what capacity he serves. He has been a beacon of hope for those individuals seeking equal protection under the law, and to borrow a phrase from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., he is a drum major for justice and equality,” said Tennessee Human Rights Commission's Chairman, Spencer Wiggins.

The Tennessee Human Rights Commission is a state agency charged with investigating complaints of discrimination in the areas of employment, public accommodations and housing. Additionally, the commission conducts education and outreach activities to educate people on the federal and state laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, mental or physical disabilities, religion, sex, age (over 40), and national origin.